

Our Lady of Peace Parish

“Three Churches One Faith Community”

Bulletin Sunday Dec 15, 2024 – **Third Sunday of Advent**

Office 603 Union St., Fredericton, NB E3A 3N5 Tel: (506) 444-6010

Fr. Maria Arokiam Chinnappan, HGN - **Administrative Assistant:** Irene Jewett

Religious Formation Patty Cameron 444-6018 pattycameron@ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca

Parish Email: parishoffice@ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca

Churches & Mass Times



St. Anthony's Church

603 Union St.
Fredericton, NB

Mass Time Saturdays at 4:00 PM

St. Patrick's Church

31 Main St.
Stanley, NB

Mass Time Sundays at 1:30 PM

St. Theresa's Church

45 Royal Road
Fredericton, NB

Mass Time Sundays at 11:00 AM

Mass Times & Intentions

Tuesday December 17th 12:00 PM St. Theresa's
Chris Connors

Wednesday December 18th 10:00 AM St. Anthony's
Cecile Thibodeau

Thursday December 19th 12:00 PM St. Theresa's
McCullum & Cassidy Families

Friday December 20th 7:00 PM St. Anthony's
Touched By Cancer Mass

Saturday December 21st 4:00 PM St. Anthony's
Mass For The People

Sunday December 22nd 11:00 AM St. Theresa's
Jim Noble

Sunday December 22nd 1:30 PM St. Patrick's
Answered Prayers

Upcoming Events

Office Hours Mon – Fri 9:am – 4:30 pm

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm St. Anthony's Church

5:30 pm St. Theresa's Church

8:00 pm St. Patrick's Church

Christmas Day

10:00 am St. Theresa's Church

New Years Eve 4:00 St. Anthony's

New Years Day 1:30 pm St. Patrick's

Our Lady of Peace Financial Update

December 8, 2024		Weekly	Contributions
Offertory	5,734	Offertory	\$ 5,734
Capital Infrastructure	501	Budget Needs	(5,255)
Diocesan Collections	145	Excess (Shortfall)	\$ 479
Other	790	Year-to-Date	Contributions
Total Contributions	\$ 7,170	Offertory	\$ 260,387
		Budget Needs	(257,495)
		Excess (Shortfall)	\$ 2,892

Our Lady of Peace is sustained by the generosity of our parishioners through time, talent and treasure. For all you do, THANK YOU!

Website & Social Media

www.ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca

Keep up to date on all activities,
news and weather cancelations!



@Ourladyofpeaceparishfredericton

Office Numbers

Fr. Maria's 444-6070

Patty Cameron 444-6018

Ministry Schedule December 21st & December 22nd

St. Anthony's

St. Theresa's

Hospitality	Greg Feener	Michele McCann, Mary Fitzpatrick, Martin Colford Darren Richard, George Fernandez, Marilyn Brennan
Eucharistic Minister	Sue Inkster	Mary Billings & Marg Anderson
Altar Servers		Joe & Al Adimalor, Will Horsley & Kevin Fernandez
Lector	Juanita Rose	Pam Shields & David Saunders
Sacristan		Rochelle Ivey

Our Lady of Peace Parish Adoration Schedule

Thursdays at 11:30 am at St. Theresa's Church before 12:00 pm Mass *

Fridays at 9:30 am at St. Anthony's Church before 10:00 am *

3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm at St. Theresa's Church (1 hour) * If Mass is cancelled so is Adoration.

Faith Formation Update

Family Faith Formation ~ Join us on Sunday, December 15th at 9:30 am for Family Faith Formation. These sessions are perfect for families with children in kindergarten to grade 7. If you would like to know more about our sessions or our take home resources, please contact Patty Cameron at pattycameron@ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca or (506) 444-6018.

Advent Resources on FORMED ~ Please be sure to check on FORMED for Advent resources for the whole family. This suggest week's suggestions are:

- The Jesus Film
- O Holy Night – Christmas wit the Annie Moses Band
- Laugh and Grow Bible for Kids Christmas Special
- Brother Francis: O Holy Night

Advent Book Study "Beautiful Eucharist" ~ join us for our last discussion this Tuesday from 7:00 to 8:15 pm as we discuss the book "Beautiful Eucharist", chapters 9 to 12. Join one of two ways! In person at in the meeting rooms at St. Theresa's Church or online via Zoom. To register for either the in person or Zoom options please contact Patty at pattycameron@ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca or (506) 444-6018.

Sunday Missals for Young Catholics ~ This year all families registered in Family Faith Formation will receive a 2024/2025 Sunday Missal for Young Catholics. Additional copies are available for purchase for \$10.00 for anyone who would like this valuable resource for their children. Please contact Patty Cameron at pattycameron@ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca.

Advent Reflection Books ~ Advent Reflection Books are available at each of the churches. Please be sure to pick one up to enrich your Advent experience this year.

JUBILEE OPENING MASS – Mark your calendars for the opening Mass of the Jubilee Year – Pilgrims of Hope in the Diocese of Saint John. This Mass will take place on Sunday, December 29, 2024 (Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph) at 5:00 pm at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

Fredericton Region Regional Reconciliation Service

The Fredericton Region will hold an Advent/Christmas Regional Reconciliation Service and Confessions at St. Francis of Assisi, Lincoln at 3.00 pm on Sunday, December 15 2024. There will be many priests available for Confessions. Everyone is invited.

Please Note: If Schools are closed due to inclement weather, weekday Masses will be cancelled.

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

The Knights of Columbus invite all children from our Parish to take part in the Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest. For all boys and girls grades kindergarten through 8th. By engaging the talents of our youth, we hope they will come to a deeper understanding of the true meaning of Christmas, and that their artwork will bring others to remember Christ in Christmas. The contest will be conducted locally with winning entries advancing through district/regional and jurisdictional competitions to the international level. The winning entries will serve as the basis for a series of international Keep Christ in Christmas posters, with creative credit going to the artists. For Entry Form or questions please contact the Grand Knight Simon Delisle at dauidsimondelisle@gmail.com. Deadline Dec 29th 2024

HELP OUR LESS FORTUNATE KEEP WARM THIS WINTER

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting new and gently used, warm winter clothing items such as gloves, hats, scarves, coats and socks (new only), to be distributed to the local shelters.

Look for the big blue box at each church.



ADVENT OUTREACH:



With your support we can help multiple charitable groups in our community this Advent Season.

This year we will be supporting; Youth in Transition (Chrysalis House), Women in Transition, Fredericton Homeless Shelters (Grace House and St. John House), Gignoo Transition House and Just Friends Food Bank. See insert for information about these charities.

Advent Gifting Trees will be set up at each church, please take a tag or two, purchase the item's, place the unwrapped items with the tags in the boxes provided at each church. To allow time for distribution before Christmas please have donations in no later than December 15th.

Together we can make a difference in our community!

Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope



Pope Francis has declared 2025 a Jubilee, an event celebrated every 25 years, with the theme Pilgrims of Hope. This Holy Year comes as the world grapples with the impacts of war, the lingering effects of the pandemic, and the urgent challenges of the climate crisis. Rooted in the biblical tradition, it will be a time to re-establish right relationships with God, one another, and all creation, inviting the faithful worldwide to embrace hope, renewal and faith through pilgrimages, liturgy, the profession of faith and reconciliation.

Pope Francis will inaugurate the Jubilee Year by opening the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica on December 24, 2024, continuing the cherished tradition that marks this sacred occasion. In the weeks that follow, he will open additional Holy doors at Rebibbia Prison on December 26, at the Basilica of St. John Lateran on December 29, at St. Mary Major on January 1, 2025, and at St. Paul Outside the Walls on January 25.

Our Bishop Christian invites all the faithful to make an inaugural pilgrimage to the Opening Mass for the Jubilee Year at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday, December 29 (Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph) at 5:00 pm, with a reception to follow. In the coming weeks, parishes will be contacted with special invitations to make a pilgrimage to the Cathedral on designated First Saturdays throughout the year for the celebration of Mass, Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, veneration of relics, historical tours, and special Jubilee prayers and reflections.

Inspired by Jesus' mission to bring hope and proclaim "a year acceptable to the Lord" (Luke 4:18-19), Jubilee 2025 offers a powerful opportunity to restore trust and unity within the Church and the world. In his February 2024 Letter announcing the Jubilee, Pope Francis encouraged the faithful, saying, "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and a far-sighted vision. Our Bishop has formulated a prayer card for you to pray throughout the Jubilee year in your homes and before or after the Lord's Day Masses in your parishes at least once a month. I invite you to take the prayer card and pray that we become the Pilgrims of hope to be a flame of hope to prisoners, the sick, the young, migrants, the elderly, and the poor.

Our Sacred Stories Incarnation: God Is Among Us – How Can We Tell?

The Feast of Christmas is around the corner. Central to this celebration and to our whole Christian faith is that God lives among us. Are there ways that we can express this basis of our faith? Sometimes we use the word “mystery” to describe such wonders of our faith. It is important that we do not confuse this term as something beyond our understanding. Instead, it is a word that allows us to accept that we are referring to a truth that is so great and full of meaning that we can never fully define or exhaust it. It will ever have a meaning for us that is inexhaustible.

The First Letter of John captures some of this inexhaustible “mystery” of our faith: *My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God* (1 Jn. 4:7). If we were to understand what we are celebrating with this Feast of Christmas, then perhaps there is no better starting point than this brief statement from John’s letter. With it, we glimpse the “mystery” as it touches our lives. Surely, this is Good News.

Our English word, Gospel comes from the Anglo-Saxon, *god-spell* or glad tidings. These glad tidings or good news or gospel are the story of God’s presence acting among us. What a wonder! This is good news that is so important, so wonderful that from the earliest times Christians told and retold the story, again and again. At some point in the first several generations it was decided that this oral story of the message and mission of Jesus should be written down. This writing down occurred in numerous Christian communities and was shared around their world, as the glad tidings, the gospel.

With the Feast of the Incarnation, we celebrate the glad tidings of God’s coming among us, to all humanity. It is the beginning of the Paschal Mystery and truly gospel, good news. How do we know and experience God among us? How do we discover that God has a love that brings the divine to live among, to live with the human?

In the reading from Luke’s Gospel (Luke 3:10-18) we meet another John - the Baptist. John is often seen as the last of the Old Testament prophets and at the same time, the first of the apostles of Jesus. As prophet, he calls on people to change, to prepare for the advent of God into our lives. As apostle, John calls for us to recognize and acknowledge that God is now among us.

Listening to this prophet and apostle, how can we grow in our own awareness of this wonder of our faith? Perhaps it is in a very active way. Hearing John, repeatedly people ask him the question *what should we do?* John’s responses are varied, but they all call for an attitude of compassion, respect, justice and peace. Paul, writing to the Philippian community of Christians (Phil.4:4-7) reveals the same message: live with gentleness to all, that God’s peace may be with you.

As we continue to move closer to the Feast of the Incarnation both John and Paul help us to find a response to our question. How can we tell that God is among us? It is by recognizing and acknowledging God’s presence in those we encounter – acknowledging that God is indeed among us and acting towards others in ways that reflect this presence.

The Old Testament prophet Zephaniah presents us with the ultimate result of such a vision of God’s active presence when we are told:

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,...The Lord, your God is in your midst,...God will rejoice over you with gladness,...You will be renewed in God’s love. (Zeph. 3:14-18) 3rd Sunday of Advent John Jennings

Purpose Faith, service and social justice are the cornerstone of the Catholic Women’s League. They give purpose to our lives. Come and grow with us.

Due to the Canada Post strike, the Fredericton Homeless Shelters is unable to mail out their letter requesting monetary donations to support this important service. This fundraising is a big part of their budget and they are unable to reach out to the community via mail. If you are interested in helping, please contact the shelters via an online contribution at theshelters.ca, by calling them at 506.450-5294 or by email at info@theshelters.ca

Offertory Envelopes are available at the churches. Please take yours regardless how you contribute your offerings. The boxed sets include Special Diocesan and Parish Envelopes. If you are not registered with the Parish please contact the office and you will be assigned a numbered box of envelopes. Please do not use your 2025 envelopes until the New Year and write your name on the first few you use. Thank You..

Liturgical Volunteers Needed ~ We at Our Lady of Peace parish are so thankful for our parishioners who participate in one or more of our Liturgical Ministries. However, we have a variety of opportunities for you to be come part of our Liturgical Ministries - Hospitality, Lectors, Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Sacristans and Music Ministry. We are asking you to volunteer your time and energy to help in these important ministries. Please contact the parish office at (506) 444-6010 to volunteer. If you want to volunteer but are a little nervous because you are not sure how, don’t worry we will have you up to speed in no time!